Program leads to eligibility for secondary education teacher certification in grades 6-12.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Secondary education candidates are eligible for teacher certification at the middle, junior high and senior high school levels. Bachelor’s degree options are available from a select list of content area certifications through WMU’s College of Arts and Sciences. Special admission is required into the competitive master’s degree program. Students planning to become teachers can begin working with youth and teachers during their undergraduate studies through select courses or verified service experiences.

PROGRAM STRENGTHS

- Increased emphasis on integration of pedagogy, methods and content-area skills. Bachelor’s degree in subject area provides extensive content knowledge.
- One-year intensive master’s degree format
- Yearlong, supervised internship experience from the start of the public school year in August through the end of the school year in June
- Cohort program of 25 or fewer students led by full-time faculty members utilizing a team teaching approach
- Structured co-teaching models with mentor teacher to increase support
- The College of Arts and Sciences provides the liberal arts core of the university, offering academic programs in the sciences, social sciences and humanities.
- Our internationally-recognized faculty will prepare you for a lifetime of innovating, adapting, learning and leading through immersive learning experiences.

Michigan school principals ranked 97% of new teachers prepared at WMU as “effective” or “highly effective” in 2018-19.
CONTENT MAJORS AND MINORS

Bachelor’s degree through the College of Arts and Sciences with a secondary education track.  Key: *major  |  +minor

- Biology*
- Chemistry+
- Chinese+
- Earth Science*
- English*
- French*
- Geography*
- German*
- History**
- Integrated Science*
- Latin*
- Social Studies*
- Spanish*
- Teaching and Learning Mathematics*+

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution in an appropriate secondary education discipline
- Transcript evaluation to determine what additional discipline-area coursework will be required
- Passing score on the Content Area Test (MTTC) for the appropriate secondary education discipline
- An overall undergraduate grade point average of at least 3.0 (4.0 = A)
- Application essays
- Interview
- Completion of ES 2000 or 7+ hours of teacher contact in a public school setting
- Completion of ED 3200 and ED 4200 or 30+ hours of student contact in a public school setting

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

- Future Teachers of Color
- Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education
- Western Student Education Association

Example:

B.A. in English + 1-year master’s degree in secondary education = eligible for secondary education English licensure

Cindy Borja, secondary education student

MY EXPERIENCES AT WMU REASSURED ME THAT I AM REALLY DOING WHAT I AM VERY PASSIONATE ABOUT – TEACHING.